

Appl. No. 09/735,240
Amdt. dated June 23, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 23, 2004

NC 29257

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-30 remain in this application.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chmaytelli et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,418,311).

The patent of Chmaytelli teaches a method to search for elements within a handset phonebook, and if these elements are found then replace these elements with alternate values, col. 1 lines 5-7. Two alternative methods are disclosed, a manual operation and an automatic SMS-based system to update the handset phonebook, col. 2 lines 22-31, and Fig. 3 and Fig. 4, respectively.

In regard to the rejection of claims 1,2,13-17 and 28-30, Chmaytelli does not teach the use of 2 elements, the change prefix and change criterion, respectively. Rather, Chmaytelli presents a search for a first variable X1 to be replaced by a second variable X2. The present invention is a more sophisticated approach to the problem addressed by Chmaytelli, and allows more flexibility and efficiency in the search phase of the phonebook.

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In regard to claims 3-8, and 18-23, Chmaytelli does not teach a change number phone table, the relied upon portion cited in steps 410,420 of Fig. 4 merely teach SMS messaging each containing a single search variable. The operation outlined in Chmaytelli's Fig. 4 requires a series of SMS messages, each containing a single X1, X2 change condition, and decision loop to process each SMS message. If the handset phonebook does not contain the required search string X1, the operation has needlessly consumed processor time and power to conduct the search. Chmaytelli's methodology consumes valuable power and processor time when blanket change messages are sent via SMS messages from the base station.

In regard to claims 9-12 and 24-27, Chmaytelli has no capability to achieve the claimed two-step search criteria as outlined. Chmaytelli can only achieve a single search string X1, and again the added capability of the present invention allows operating efficiency not contemplated in Chmaytelli. Cited passage of col. 4 line 59 through col. 5 line 15 merely explains the use of X2 to replace the value found in X1, no capability is present or contemplated to conduct a two-step search.

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Accordingly, claims 1-30 are clearly not anticipated by the patent of Chmaytelli, as each of the claimed elements is not present in the cited reference and this rejections should be withdrawn. In addition, the claimed invention cannot be rendered obvious in light of the teachings of Chmaytelli, as additional capability and efficiency is obtained via the presently claimed invention. Present claims 1-30 are believed to be in allowable form having overcome all existing rejections set forth within the office action of March 23, 2004. Therefore, the applicant respectfully requests allowance of all the claims and issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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